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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 6,918,138
Issue Date: July 19, 2005
Application No. 10/672,102
Filed: September 26, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 130139

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DECISION ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed April 12, 2010 to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

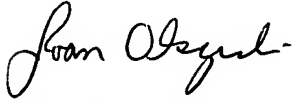
This patent expired on July 20, 2009 for failure to pay the three and one-half year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

It is not apparent whether the statement of unintentional delay was signed by a person who would have been in a position of knowing that the delay in filing a timely response was unintentional. Nevertheless, in accordance with 37 CFR 10.18, the statement is accepted as constituting a certification of unintentional delay. However, in the event that petitioner has no knowledge that the delay in paying the maintenance fee was in fact unintentional, petitioner must make such an inquiry to ascertain that, in fact, the delay was unintentional. If petitioner discovers that the delay in paying the maintenance fee was intentional, petitioner must so notify the Office. Further, it is not apparent whether the person signing the instant petition was ever given a power of attorney or authorization of agent to prosecute this patent. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.34(a), the signature appearing on the petition shall constitute a representation to the United States Patent and Trademark Office that he/she is authorized to represent the particular party in whose behalf he/she acts. Additionally, the address given on the petition differs from the address of record. A courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the address given

on the petition; however, the Office will mail all future correspondence solely to the address of record.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-7751.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joan Olszewski".

Joan Olszewski
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

cc: Alan M. Koenck
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